



2009-2010 Officers

Grand Knight
Julio Alvarez, Jr

Deputy Grand Knight
Scott Sheffield

Chancellor
John Montaldo

Warden
Darin O'Neal

Treasurer
Steve Haines

Advocate
Jim Kelly

Recorder
Shawn Ryan

Inside Guard
Roger Spinelli

Outside Guards
Mike Grogan
Ed Sleyzak

Trustees
Three Years—
Nick Turco, PGK
Two Years—
Ed Milius, PGK
One Year—
John Cirello,

Field Agent
Thomas P. Cummings III
813-625-2444

Email:
Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org

Knightly News

CALENDAR

August

Aug 12	Faith and Morals Program 6:30 PM Church MPR
Aug 12	Father McGivney birthday mass and Corporate Communion 7:00 PM
Aug 14	4th Degree Monthly Meeting St Stephen's MPR 6:30 PM
Aug 15	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM St. Stephen School
Aug 15	4th Degree Officer Installation and Mass 4:00 PM Nativity Church
Aug 16	Ray's Baseball Game 1:30 PM
Aug 22	KofC Officer Training 9:00 AM St. Clement
Aug 27	Buc's Football Game vs Miami 3:00 PM-School

September

Sep 2	Monthly Business Meeting 8:00 PM Church MPR
Sep 4	Buc's Football Game vs Houston 2:00 PM
Sep 4	Squires Business Meeting 7:00 PM Church-Second Floor
Sep 8	1st Degree Exemplification 7:30 PM Nativity
Sep 9	Blue Mass 7:00 PM
Sep 9	Family Social 8:00 PM Church MPR
Sep 10	4th Degree Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM
Sep 12	Respect Life Rosary 5:45 AM
Sep 12	Soccer Challenge (Tentative)
Sep 12	Buc's Football Game vs Dallas 8:00 AM Church
Sep19-20	Men's Christ Renews His Parish
Sep 19	2nd Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM St Stephen School
Sep 26-27	Parish Ministry Fair
Sep 26-27	KofC State Golf Tournament
Sep 26	Buc's Football Game vs Giants 8:00 AM—School

October

Oct 2	Squires Business Meeting 7:00 PM Church-Second Floor
Oct 7	Monthly Business Meeting 8:00 PM Church MPR
Oct 9	U2 Concert—RJS Special Event 3:00 PM Church
Oct 9	4th Degree Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM
Oct 10	Respect Life Rosary 5:45 AM
Oct 11	Corporate Communion 8:00 AM St. Stephen
Oct 12	School Coloring Books 10:00 AM School
Oct 16	KofC Open House and Family Social 6:30 PM Church MPR
Oct 17	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM St. Stephen's School
Oct 18	Buc's Football Game vs Carolina 8:00 AM—School



Directors and Committee Chairmen

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Program Director

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Church Committee

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Grand Knight's Report

Brother Knights & Families

I want to acknowledge the great work that many of you are continuing to do on behalf of the Council. Additionally, I want to thank all of you and your families that supported the Installation Ceremony. I cannot tell you how much it means to your council officers to have the support of your presence and prayers to God for the guidance, vision, courage and endurance which we will all need to effectively lead this great St Stephen Council for another Fraternal Year.

Your Officers, Service Program Directors and I are in the process of finalizing our strategic vision for the Council both near and long term. I will soon, accompanied by our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor and Benefits Advisor, meet with our Worthy Chaplain and Pastor, Father Bill, to ensure we are in-synch in our efforts to ensure that we clearly articulate our support for our clergy and parish. Communication is critical, therefore, I encourage you to share your newsletter with your family as well read the Minutes of our Business Meetings when distributed and posted on our Website. Although nothing substitutes for attendance at our Business Meetings, at the very least, I ask that you stay in the loop with regards to our actions and activities by staying informed, asking questions and most importantly...being involved.

I want to once again reiterate the three important pillars which I believe exemplify the near and hopefully long term character of our Council. The first is that we all must realize that we are an **'Active' Council**. This means that every member is expected to participate in one way or another in the activities of our Council. I realize that time is at a premium for are some of you who because of



Julio Alvarez, Jr
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jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com

jobs requirements and other personal commitments. However, remember that you have made a commitment as a Knight to become a better Catholic and a positive example of service to our Parish and Community. I want you to want to be involved in the life of the Council. I want you to share in the spirituality and friendships that come from being a Knight. I want to leverage your unique qualities and capabilities to help make this one of the best Councils in the State of Florida and a force for good works within our own communities. To accomplish this, all of us need to become involved. **One of our major council requirements is that each member is associated with at least one Service Program Committee.** Our directors need a willing pool of potential volunteers, who they can call upon when they need assistance whether it is manpower, advice, planning expertise, etc. It does not mean you have to do everything or anything – it just provides the Council a more efficient way of gauging interest, and thus potential support, for given projects falling within the purview of specific programs. This also does not mean you cannot be involved in projects across the spectrum of programs in the Council. Please contact me, our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Sir Knight Scott Sheffield, our Worthy Chancellor, Sir Knight John Montaldo or our Worthy Lecturer and Field Agent Sir Knight Tom Cummings III and discuss with us the program area that interests you the most. We will ensure we answer your questions and help guide you in the right direction.

The next area is **'Family involvement'**. I realize that it is a difficult choice to give up time with the family to commit to Council projects and events; therefore, I will consistently scrutinize planned events and ensure that there is opportunity to include family participation (which has always been encouraged) as well as



more your families know about what we do and your efforts there, the more amenable they will be to both your involvement as well as their potential involvement. Your input is essential to this effort.

Finally, what I believe to be one of our most important areas is **'Spiritual Growth'**. We cannot be effective 'Defenders of the Faith' if we do not know our Faith. An excerpt from some of the literature regarding our purpose as Knights reads...

"The Knights of Columbus are men of faith, guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but by our belief in each other, and in ourselves. As Knights of Columbus, we believe that a man is defined by his actions as a follower of God and as a leader in his community."

Our Faith and Morals Programs are a large part of that effort. Additionally, we are in the process of planning a Spiritual Retreat in early to mid-January. But more importantly – it's what we do now that counts. We should be setting the example for our Community. Our Degree Advancement Preparation

Program, and every member's support of our Council –hosted Exemplifications contributes immensely to this effort. In fact, this YEAR OF THE PRIEST, our First Degree Honorees will be members of our Clergy and Religious who we will invite and Honor with each class of new members. Honor our Priests by supporting our Exemplifications and physically demonstrating our Principles of Unity and Fraternity to our advancing Brother Knights. It's merely an hour of one Saturday per month – but the payoff is immeasurable!

A reminder that the theme for this month is...

'The Legacy of Venerable

Michael J. McGivney'

If there is any doubt in your mind... **THIS MEANS YOU...AS A KNIGHT!** To that end we have several efforts where we intend to spotlight our Founder and our Order. Plan to join together this coming **Wednesday August 12th at 7:00 pm**, the Birth date of our Founder, to participate in a Knights of Columbus **FAMILY CORPORATE MASS** to pray together and give thanks for the vision of Venerable

Michael J. McGivney and pray for the cause of his Sainthood. Following this dedicated Mass and Knights-led Rosary, we will retire to the Multi-Purpose Room for a Cake Cutting Ceremony and a Cake & Ice Cream Social featuring a short History on the Life and Legacy of Father Michael J. McGivney, and a very brief presentation by a unique guest which the Lord placed before me which I believe will be inspiring to all attending, especially our youth. It will also be a great time to meet and greet your fellow brothers and their families and celebrate together! Dress for this event is Casual; however, I ask that Knights and Squires wear their Shirts and Badges, and Officers, Directors and those serving in the Mass to wear Coat and Tie & Badges (*Officers wear Jewels*).

We have an exciting year ahead; however, we need whatever contribution of time or talent that can be spared from every Brother Knight so that

***TOGETHER WE CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!***

VIVAT JESUS!

Julio



Keep in our Prayers

- Brother Jon DeCort's Aunt, Marilyn Hammond, who was hospitalized with severe digestive system problems.
- Worthy District Deputy, Rick Hughes' mother in law - Muriel Page, who recently passed away. Please keep her and Melodee in your prayers.
- Brother Peter Gallagher's mother-in-law, Dorothy Chevalier who passed away a few weeks ago at the Hospice Center in Sun City Center. Please keep her and Peter's wife Pam in your prayers.
- Brother Francis Xavier's mother-in-law, Donna, who was moved to a hospice facility due to her further deteriorating health from pancreatic cancer
- Brother Greg Gambor's daughter in law, Jenny, who under went successful surgery to have a fibrous mass removed from her brain.
- Debbie Cuesta, wife of Felipe Cuesta, GK of Council 14278 who recently had surgery to fix a broken leg
- Brother Ed Sleyzak's sister, Marianne who is showing improvement in her struggles with lung cancer.
- Our Brothers who are experiencing the hardship of job loss and the associated stresses.

Mary, Queen of the Knights, Pray for Us.



Chaplain's Report



My Brother Knights,

It is hard to believe that school is already starting. For those of us with kids, we know that this is the time when we need to help our children get the best start possible. As good and loving parents, we need to be sure they eat healthy balanced meals, get sufficient rest, and develop good study habits. If our children develop healthy habits at the start of the school year, it will be a great year for them, full of fun and exciting adventures in learning. Not only that, we realize it will give them the skills needed to be successful throughout life.

Sometimes I think we need to parent ourselves. How many of us struggle with those same issues? Do we have healthy diets, get sufficient rest, and have a balanced lifestyle? All too often it seems we focus so much on meeting immediate needs and demands that we forget about the fundamentals which form the basis of a healthy and "whole" life.

I'm reminded of the professor who filled a bucket with rocks in front of a class of MIT types. After the class confirmed it was full and could hold no more, he added pebbles. When asked, they again affirmed it was full. Then he added sand. Finally, he added water. The lesson? Some say thought it was to prove we can al-

ways do more than we think. Wrong. The point is that we must first start with the basics – the primary values. If the professor started with water, neither the sand, pebbles, nor rocks would fit.

So what are your rocks? What are the things that you value most in life? How do they fit in your bucket. For me, the values are clear – our relationship with the Lord must be our top priority. We need to pray each day alone and as a family and actively participate in Mass at least on weekends. The second priority must be family. Our spouse and children are treasures from God. We must never take them for granted. They deserve our best effort. Thirdly, it is our own health - spiritually, physically, emotionally, and intellectually. We must take care of the temple God has entrusted to us. After that comes work and community commitments.

If we reverse the order, we can end up being very successful in business – but with a marriage in ruins, children who are lost, and health issues which paralyze us. Worst of all, we may have compromised our salvation. The funny thing about focusing on our worldly success is that we can't take it with us. Oh, I know one guy who tried. He put it in his will that the executor of his estate should place all of his money in his coffin when he is buried. They wrote a check and placed it in his coffin. August is a great time to begin new habits. Take it to prayer and reflect on your priorities. Make sure your lifestyle reflects those values. You and your family will be glad you did.

May God bless you!

Fr. Bill Swengros
Chaplain

Rev Bill Swengros
689-4900
pastor@ststephencatholic.org

An important message from State

Contact Congress - Health Care Reform will Subsidize Abortion

The U.S. House and Senate are expected to vote after Labor Day on health care reform legislation that could result in the largest expansion of abortion since Roe v. Wade. In July, committees in both the House and Senate approved bills that would result in the federal funding of abortion on a massive scale. The committees rejected amendments that would have prevented federal funding of abortion.

The House and Senate will be on recess during the month of August, and Senators and Congressmen will be in their home districts taking the public's pulse on health care reform. August could be the most important month in the history of the pro-life cause.

This August, every Knight of Columbus should urge his representatives in Congress to oppose any health care legislation unless specific amendments are added to prohibit abortion subsidies.

Therefore, members of the House should be asked to support the Stupak Amendment. Members of the Senate should be asked to support the Hatch Amendment. All lawmakers should be asked to **OPPOSE** the health care legislation unless these amendments are added.

We urge you to: -

Attend public events / town hall meetings to let your representatives in Congress know your opinion. -

Call the local and Washington offices of your senators and congressman. For contact information for your senators and congressman,

go to the National Right to Life Committee website at www.nrlactioncenter.com



Field Agent 's Report

The new Columbian Year is off to a flying start. Your officers have been installed and trained and are ready to move your Council and the Order form Good to Great, the theme established by our State Deputy Doug Murray.

This month we celebrate the anniversaries of the birth and death of our Founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney. His Vision of an Order of men united in Charity, Unity and Fraternity lives on as his lasting legacy.

Will you commit yourself to three goals this year?

Be an active participant in your

Council:

Recruit one new Knight, we need good men to support our pastors and priests

Meet with your Field Agent to review your Family Plan for Protection - this past year has left many families that felt secure a year ago incredibly vulnerable this year.

St. Stephen Parish has started a weekly meeting of CT (Career Transition) Ministry on Monday nights at the school on Boyette Road. I have visited several meetings and it is very worthwhile for anyone in the market for a change of career or employment. Check it out.

On June 19th for the 34th consecutive

year, the Knights of Columbus has received the A++ designation from A.M. Best. Standard and Poors continued its AAA Rating. What about your insurer? How is it rated after the financial debacle of the past year? Go to the A.M. Best website and check.

Many holders of Universal and Variable Life Policies will be in for a rude surprise when they see that their cash values in these policies have eroded.

If you want to meet and review your coverage, give me a call or an email.

Fraternally,

Tom Cummings
813-625-2444

thomas.cummings@kofc.org

Family Committee News

On July 24, 2009, over one hundred and twenty brothers, family and friends attended the "Potluck Social", which followed the installation of the new officers. Thanks to Brother Chris Lewis for working with the Family committee and providing a wonderful meal. This was the new Family Director's first official solo gig, where he and his committee did an awesome job. Thank you Anthony Giaccone and crew. The church maintenance staff offered their thanks for putting the church back to its original set up for mass on the following day. We all pitched in and got the job done like always.

The family committee is looking for more help and any new ideas you might like to share. Key dates that will be coming up over the next few months are as follows:

August 12, 2009 Corporate Communion and Birthday Celebration for our Founder Father Michael J. McGivney, Corporate Communion is at 7pm, with a Birthday Celebration Ice Cream Social Style to follow that evening.

Wednesday September 9th, 2009 Our Annual Blue Mass at 7pm with a desert potluck to follow.

October 16, 2009 is our Knights of Columbus open house event and Clergy appreciation dinner, more information will follow at a later date in regards to this event.

Please don't hesitate to contact Anthony Giaccone at 813-927-5127 with any ideas or comments all are appreciated.

Church Committee News

We will be having a Corporate Communion Mass on Wednesday evening, August 12 at 7:00pm followed by praying of the Rosary led by brother knights in celebration of Fr. McGivney's birthday. At the conclusion of the Rosary, you and your family are invited to share in an Ice Cream Social in the Multipurpose room and a short presentation by S/K Thomas P. Cummings III on the life of Father Michael J. McGivney.

Also, please mark your calendars in October for the Corporate Communion Mass on Sunday October 11 at 8am. We were not able to schedule the Clergy Appreciation Dinner for the same day as the Mass, so we will follow with Clergy Appreciation and Family Social on Friday Evening, October 16 beginning at 6:30, details to follow on the "food theme" for the evening.

There is always room for one more on the Church Committee. If you are interested in what we do, please e mail Patrick Roach at proach1027@yahoo.com or call 813-956-7284.

"Cards and Cigars"

On July 17, 2009, twenty four brothers and friends took part in the first Cards and Cigars get together at the "Montaldo Compound". In addition to card playing, several brothers tried their hand at horseshoes in the side yard. It was a "Hot & Smokin' Night" (literally) but the fellowship made it all worthy wild. It was a fun time had by all. Thanks to Chef Gene Batroine's secret recipe for grilling Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, and it was a wonderful meal. This event will be repeated guaranteed. Thank you Scott and John for putting this one together.



Membership Report

John Kulesa

600-5407

John.kulesa@earthlink.net

This past month our Council had two of our Brothers advance to the 2nd Degree. On Saturday July 18th, Paul Archer and Norman Meeks took the next step towards full Knighthood.

There will be a First Degree on August 15th 2009, at St. Stephen Catholic School. The start time will be 9:00 AM. Approved Candidates with Sponsors are expected to arrive no later than 8 am with observing members arriving no later than 8:50 am. Dress Code is Casual. Questions about Admissions should be directed to our Admissions Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Bill Queenan** at Email: admissions@kofc.org, Phone: 833-8137.

The next Second Degree will be September 19th at St. Stephen Catholic School. Sponsors, please let me know of any approved candidates so I can contact them about the upcoming degree. Being a Knight means being involved and learning about our Order, our Principles, and most importantly, learning to better practice our Faith. I encourage each and every one of you, whether working towards a degree or sponsoring a potential Candidate, to make the effort to grow as a Knight by taking an active part in achieving the require-

ments to advancement in the Order.

I would also like to make a correction. In the June newsletter I forgot to mention one important brother that is very involved in the membership committee, Herb Swoope.

Finally, please continue your efforts to build the Council and the Order by recruiting quality Catholic Gentlemen with the energy and spirit to make a difference in our Community.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO WORK ON YOUR ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS!

As always I look forward to any ideas on how to improve our membership recruitment. Anyone who is interested in joining the Membership Committee is welcome.

Fraternally,

John Kulesa
Membership Director



Knights of Columbus
**FOURTH
DEGREE**
Highest degree of Knighthood.

Installation Ceremony and Dinner

WHEN: Saturday, August 15, 2009

TIME: Installation immediately after 4 PM mass.
Dinner immediately after Installation Ceremony

INSTALLATION: Ceremony to be performed by SK Gary McLain, Master of the Florida District

DINNER: \$10 per person includes dinner, beer, wine and soft drinks. (What a deal!!)

WHO: Assembly members, wives and guests

DRESS: Tux with baldric is strongly suggested for 4th degree members, but your presence is more important. A few Knights will be needed in Regalia

– notify Commander Rick Hughes if you are available.

Please notify us if you plan to attend – we have to be sure we have enough food. Notify me or Ed McNamara. Your payment in advance would be appreciated.

Some of you cannot make the Friday night meeting schedule. This would be a great way to get see your fellow Sir Knights again.

John Cirello, FC
813 671 2566

Ed McNamara, FN
813 657 7716



2009-2010 Council Year Officer Installation

On July 24, 2009, over one hundred family and friends attended the installation of officers for St. Stephen Council 14084 at the church. The evening started out with the singing of the National Anthem by Maddy Montaldo and Alyssa Delsoy. The annual event was officiated by our newly appointed District 35 Director Rick Hughes, and blessed by our Chaplain Father Bill Swengros. The newly elected officers took their charge from the District Director while family members and friends bestowed jewels upon the newly appointed officers.



From left to right, the new officers in the picture are Tom Cummings, III, John Berrie, Nick Turco, Shawn Ryan, John Montaldo, Roger Spinelli, Scott Sheffield, Rick Hughes, Julio Alvarez, Jr., Ed Milius, Father Bill Swengros, Mike Grogan, Steve Haines, Jim Kelly, John Cirello and Ed Sleyzak. Good luck to all the newly elected officers and appointed directors.



From the District Deputy

Brothers All:

I first want to thank all of you who have wished me well and have promised to pray for me as I embark on my first term as District Deputy. It is an honor to have been appointed to this position, and I hope that I serve all of you well. Even though much of my time will be spent with other Councils in the District, please know that my Brothers at Stephen are always in my thoughts and prayers. And, as I am still the Degree Team Captain at St Stephen, you will almost always see me at the Degree Exemplifications!

Many of you know me from my years as Grand Knight, but I still want to share with you some of my philosophy. I am pretty passionate about the Knights—in fact, I personally believe that every Catholic man ought to be a Knight. Of course, though the Order in the United States is 1.3 million strong, there are an estimated 30 million Catholic men who are eligible to be Knights. As someone who believes strongly in the Order, I always have to ask myself why. In many cases, of course, these men are only “nominal Catholics” who rarely go to Mass. However, there are many more who are faithful Catholics, but who either don’t know much about us, have not considered the Order because of time constraints or life circumstances, or perhaps have had negative experiences with Knights in the past. In fact, I would venture to say that most Catholic men who are not members have perceptions and opinions of the Knights not based on the great things the Supreme Council has done for the Church and numerous charities, and not because of the strong in-

surance program we have in place; rather, those perceptions have been formed by their contact with Councils and individual Knights in their local area. That means that, as an individual Knight, your behavior and actions have an extremely important influence on whether or not we can reach out to those Catholic men who should be in the Order.

So what can we do as individual Knights to help bring Catholic men into the Order? First and foremost, we must treat each other well. As a Catholic, you should always treat others with Charity, but Brother Knights should be treated with Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. These are the first three principles of our Order, and if we as Knights don’t live them daily in our lives, what’s the point in being a Knight?

Second, be a Defender of the Faith. Now, that doesn’t mean we have to do “battle”, or become an expert Catholic apologist. But neither should we be embarrassed by our Faith. Never be afraid to express your beliefs and your support for your Church, the Holy Father, and our bishops and priests. Especially in this “Year For Priests” proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI, we as Knights should be going out of our way to thank our priests for their vocation and express our support for them. Father McGivney would expect no less of us.

Third, never forget that our Order was originally founded to take care of deceased members’ widows and orphans. While the Order’s insurance program is the primary venue for that task, we should always maintain contact with and support the family members of deceased Brother Knights.

Fourth, as our time, family, and job circumstances allow, we should participate in the Council’s service programs and ministries supporting the parish and the community. Even if the only thing you have time to do is be a Lector at Mass once every couple of months, you are doing Knight’s work. Of course, we hope that you participate in at least one of the Council’s service programs—after, without your involvement, these service programs would fail—but whatever you are able to do, do it as a Knight. And let people know you are a member of the Order by wearing a nametag!

As your District Deputy, I will do everything in my power to ensure the Grand Knight and the Council Officers and Directors have the resources they need to run a great Council. If you support them and follow the principles I have outlined above, then you will be doing your part to help us build the Order—one Council at a time.

Fraternally,

Rick Hughes
District Deputy 35



Raymond James Staffing

We currently have **61 volunteers** to fill **126 positions** during the year, but we can always use more help.

Please volunteer—you will have fun doing it.



PRE-SEASON

Thurs. 8/27 MIAMI 8:00 PM

Fri. 9/4 HOUSTON 7:00 PM

REGULAR SEASON

Sun. 9/13 DALLAS 1:00 PM

Sun. 9/27 N.Y. GIANTS 1:00 PM

Sun. 10/18 CAROLINA 1:00 PM

Sun. 11/8 GREEN BAY 1:00 PM

Sun. 11/22 NEW ORLEANS 1:00 PM

PM

Sun. 12/13 N.Y. JETS 1:00 PM

Sun. 1/3 ATLANTA 1:00 PM

Knight of the Month

Dom Cirello



for his many contributions to the Council and most recently his leadership in tearing down an old building for Cardiacstart

Shining Armor Award



On behalf of the LeBreche Insurance agency, Field Agent Tom Cummings III presents Grand Knight Julio Alvarez, Jr. a \$250 check for the council tying for highest number of Shining Armor awards (23), in the Central Florida Gulf Coast region. In his generosity, Tom matched the agency check with \$250 of his own which will be earmarked to the Knight's in Distress fund.



Brian, Swetnam, Ed Sleyzak, and Mike Grogan were presented with their Shining Armor award pins by Julio at the August business meeting.

Family of the Month

Bruce Czaja family

For their involvement in numerous church and council activities including vacation bible school and road clean up



127th
SUPREME
CONVENTION
in Phoenix, Arizona



The Knights of Columbus International Convention was held this past week in Phoenix, Arizona. Please go to the Supreme Headquarters website, www.KofC.org to see pictures of the convention and review a summaries of the key presentations



Knighly News

Community Activities

August 2009

Herb Swoope

277-4376

hswoope@msn.com



Respect Life Rosary

(Woman s Abortion Clinic)
is scheduled for September 12,
2009. If you have any questions,
get with Chuck Lusky e-mail
charles.kusky@verizon.net

Adopt a Highway

On July 25 seven Knights and four family members pitched in to help pick up litter on Bell Shoals Road in support of the Keep Hillsborough County Beautiful Adopt-A-Road Program. Thanks to Rick Armstrong, Tony Conceicao, Bruce Czaja, Rick Houck, Chris Lewis, and Norm Meeks, and Jim Pryor for showing up early on a muggy Saturday morning to help improve our community. Also joining the effort were family members Jana Meeks, Cam Czaja, Emma Czaja, and Lara Draddy.



Veteran's

Hospital Visit

On July 15th Sir Knight's from Assembly 1850 had their bi-monthly visit with the men and women at the VA Hospital in Tampa. The veterans were presented with an American flag and a "POW/MIA"



flag for display in the "Cafe". Hospitals staff members and our assembly's VA representatives were part of the ceremony of investing the colors in their new home. Our Knight's also brought VHS tapes, books, magazines and playing cards for the vets' enjoyment. As with all of our visits the vets were delighted to see us. These heroes are ever mindful of our visits and are requesting staff of the dates. They have done so much for our beloved country and us. WE can't do enough for them. To give a little of our time is such a small thing for us, but such a big thing for them. So come join us in September for our next visit with our Veterans.

On Sunday, the 26th of July, a soldier from the 101st airborne division, US Army, returned home from a 15 month tour of duty in Iraq. He longed to see his family and friends, as you might well imagine, but there was something more on his mind. He wanted to express his heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the "Knights of Columbus" and in particular to Herb Swoope and his wife Judy for their tireless efforts in helping him and his entire battalion, while they were serving in the war zone. You see, Herb and Judy had taken the time to honor our brave soldiers by sending more than 35 shipments to our troops in Iraq. These boxes were sent to Michael F. Queenan. PFC, but they were destined to aid many more of our soldiers. Mike's happy job became the distributing of these packages to his "Brothers in Arms". He said "They (his fellow troops) were moved that some Americans would do such a thing for them." And he wanted to personally meet those, who were so caring. For me this letter is a work of joy for Michael is my son.

For the Council 14084. Bill Queenan VA affairs.



Brothers. I have to admit, I've always loved tearing stuff up.

Before (7/11/2009)



After (7/25/2009)

Marvin and Norman showed up to help me tear down and old building for Cardiosart. We worked 3 hours and leveled the structure (more than we thought we'd be able to do).

The plan was to get a full turnout on Saturday August 8, 2009, to chop the remaining stuff up and to haul it off to the dump.

Hopefully, we had enough Knights there to help complete the job yesterday.

Dom Cirello